

The Applicant has also taken this opportunity to amend an incorrect reference character in the specification.

Submitted herewith is a document (entitled Exhibit A - Listing of All Claims and Amendments (10-27-2004)) containing a listing of the claims as currently presented. The Listing attached herewith contains the text of each pending claim, along with any amendments made hereby (illustrated using strikethrough and underlining) and the status of each pending claim.

Given the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that currently pending claims 1-4, 6, and 8-18 are in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested. If there is any matter which could be expedited by consultation with the Applicant's attorney, such would be welcome. The Applicant's attorney can normally be reached at the telephone number below.

Signed at Bellingham, County of Whatcom, State of Washington this 27th day of October, 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

STERN et al.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Signature: Susie Hubka

Print Name: Susie Hubka

Date: October 27, 2004